

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claim 24 and amend claims 1-23 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for constructing a distraction appliance for orthodontic/orthognathic and maxillofacial surgery purposes on the mandible for the distraction of an anterior mandibular bone segment above the chin bone against the lower mandibular rim, said bone segment having an upper extremity and a lower extremity, said appliance kit comprising, in combination:

a first distractor module and a second distractor module, wherein the first distractor module is substantially U-shaped and adapted to a dental arch and has a mid-segment and on both sides thereof an end-segment, wherein each end-segment is connected to the mid-segment via a linear distraction element and wherein each end-segment has means for fixating the respective end segment on the mandible and means for fixating the mid-segment to the upper extremity of the bone segment,

wherein the second distractor module is related connectable to an anterior mandibular the bone segment above the chin bone to be moved and has means for fixating the same at the lower extremity of the bone segment;

wherein the first distractor module and the second distractor module, when fixated on a mandible, are operative together to apply pressure to both the upper and lower extremities of the anterior mandibular bone segment, respectively, to distract the bone segment outward from the lower mandibular rim.

2. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein the corresponding end-segments of the first distractor module have fixation elements for an attachment on the lateral teeth.

3. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein the means for fixating the end-segments of the first distractor module include bone screw fixation elements for a screw fixation on the mandible.

4. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein each distraction element is constructed from at least three elements which are connected to each other, where the first element is screwed inside the second and third element with counter rotational threads such that a rotation of the first element in one or the other sense results in a lengthening or shortening of the distraction element.

5. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 4, wherein a section point is provided in the area of each distraction element in which an end-segment thereof can be resolved from the mid-segment.

6. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein the second distractor module takes the shape of a hinge with two hinge-halves, where one hinge-half is associated with the chin and the other hinge-half to the frontal bone segment to be distracted.

7. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 6, wherein the

hinge axis is approximately parallel to the occlusal plane and vertical to the sagittal plane.

8. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 6, wherein the hinge has a stop position for limiting the rotation range of the hinge-halves.

9. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 6, wherein the fixating means include at least one drill hole.

10. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 9, wherein the drill hole is a slotted hole.

11. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 10, wherein the slotted hole includes a plurality of partially overlapping drill holes such that a plurality of discrete fixation positions are provided.

12. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 10, further

comprising a guiding sleeve inserted in the slotted hole, which is movable along the slotted hole, and wherein a fixation screw inserted into the guiding sleeve.

13. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 12, wherein the guiding sleeve can be clamped inside of the slotted hole.

14. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 12, further comprising a cable linkage attached to the guiding sleeve, by means of which linkage the portion bearing this guiding sleeve of the second distractor module can be pivoted around the hinge axis.

15. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 14, further comprising a bearing and a screw element held therein for tightening the cable linkage.

16. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 6, wherein one hinge-half is V-shaped and wherein fixation parts are provided on the two free ends of the two hinge halves.

17. (Previously Presented) Distraction A kit of parts for a  
distraction appliance according to claim 14, wherein an  
additional fixation point is provided at the connection  
point between the two hinge halves.

18. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a  
distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein the  
second distractor module is pivotally mounted on the mid-  
segment of the first distractor module.

19. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a  
distraction appliance according to claim 18, wherein the  
second distractor module is a cantilever, whereas this  
cantilever is connected to the mid-segment of the first  
distractor module and whereas the cantilever has fixation  
parts for the frontal bone segment.

20. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a  
distraction appliance according to claim 19, wherein the  
second distractor module is an U-shaped cantilever with two  
legs and a mid-segment connecting the two legs, whereas the  
mid-segment is connected to the mid-segment of the first  
distractor module and whereas the free ends of the two legs  
provide fixation parts.

21. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 18, wherein the second distractor module is an essentially beam-shaped cantilever which has fixation parts on its free ends.

22. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 19, wherein the cantilever can be shortened or lengthened by means of an adaptation mechanism.

23. (Currently Amended) Distraction A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 22, wherein the adaptation mechanism has a spindle drive with shaft joint.

24. (New) A kit of parts for a distraction appliance according to claim 1, wherein said second distracter module has means for fixating the same at an intact mandibular bone below the bone segment and means for applying distraction pressure to the lower extremity of the bone segment with respect to the intact bone.